

# St. Scholastica Parish

The Parish Offices are located in the Administration Center 7800 Janes Avenue, Woodridge, IL

Phone..... 630.985.2351

Fax ..... 630.985.8770

E-mail.....parishoffice@stscholasticaparish.org

## Pastoral Staff

Father Norbert Raszeja, CR, *Pastor, ext. 126*

[fnorbert@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:fnorbert@stscholasticaparish.org)

Father Ed Howe, CR, *Parochial Vicar, ext. 156*

[ehowecr@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:ehowecr@stscholasticaparish.org)

Deacon Tom Marciani, *Permanent Deacon*

[tpmarciani@gmail.com](mailto:tpmarciani@gmail.com) or 630.721.2232

Deacon Rick Feltes, *Permanent Deacon*

[rfeltes@archchicago.org](mailto:rfeltes@archchicago.org)

Deacon Bob Wallace, *Permanent Deacon*

[dcnbob@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:dcnbob@stscholasticaparish.org)

## Parish Office/Support Staff

Jean Palasz, *Business Manager, ext. 125*

[ipalasz@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:ipalasz@stscholasticaparish.org)

Sue Gosewehr, *Administrative Assistant, ext. 124*

[sgosewehr@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:sgosewehr@stscholasticaparish.org)

Lisa Riedl, *Clergy & Liturgy Administrative Assistant, ext. 127*

[riedl@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:riedl@stscholasticaparish.org)

Marisa Trevino, *Parish Secretary, ext. 122*

[mtrevino@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:mtrevino@stscholasticaparish.org)

## Office of Worship

Kurt Meyer, *Director of Music, ext. 140*

[kmeyer@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:kmeyer@stscholasticaparish.org)

## Staff—Education Offices

### School, *Grades K-8*

7720 Janes Avenue ..... 630.985.2515

School Fax..... 630.985.2395

Miss Elizabeth Driscoll, *Principal*

[ldriscoll@stscholasticaschool.org](mailto:ldriscoll@stscholasticaschool.org)

Angie Kesterson, *School Secretary*

[akesterson@stscholasticaschool.org](mailto:akesterson@stscholasticaschool.org)

Alicia Garland, *School Secretary*

[agarland@stscholasticaschool.org](mailto:agarland@stscholasticaschool.org)

### Religious Education/Formation Program

7720 Janes Avenue..... 630.985.9255

Chris Hannigan-Wiehn, *Director of Religious Education, ext. 117*

[religiousformation@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:religiousformation@stscholasticaparish.org)

Emma Bueno, *Religious Education Secretary*

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

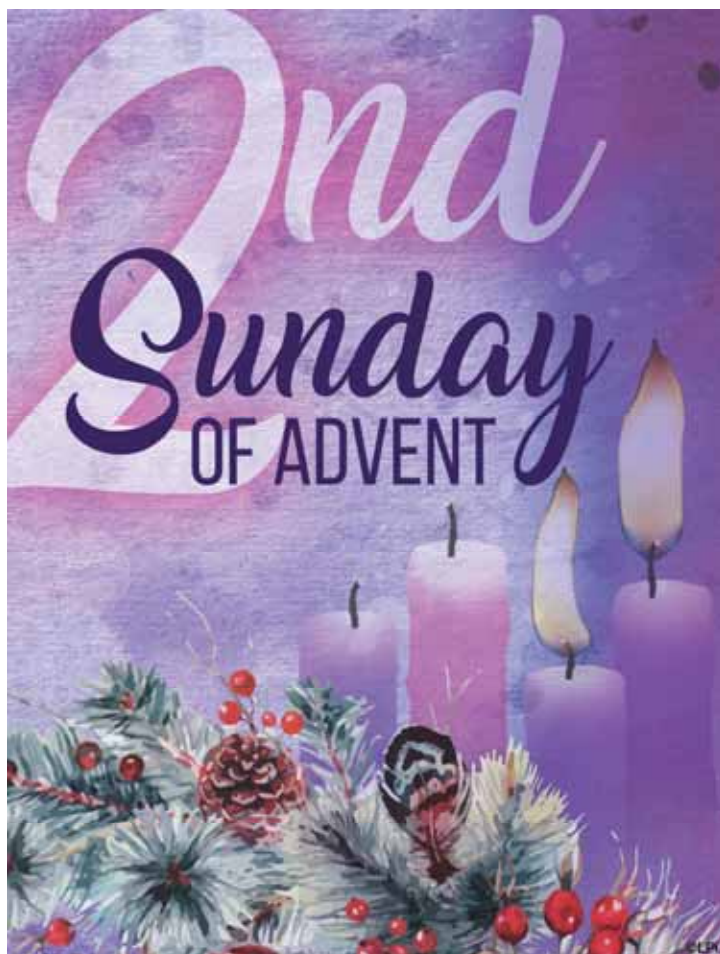
Shawn Denning, *Director, ext. 130*

[sdenning@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:sdenning@stscholasticaparish.org)

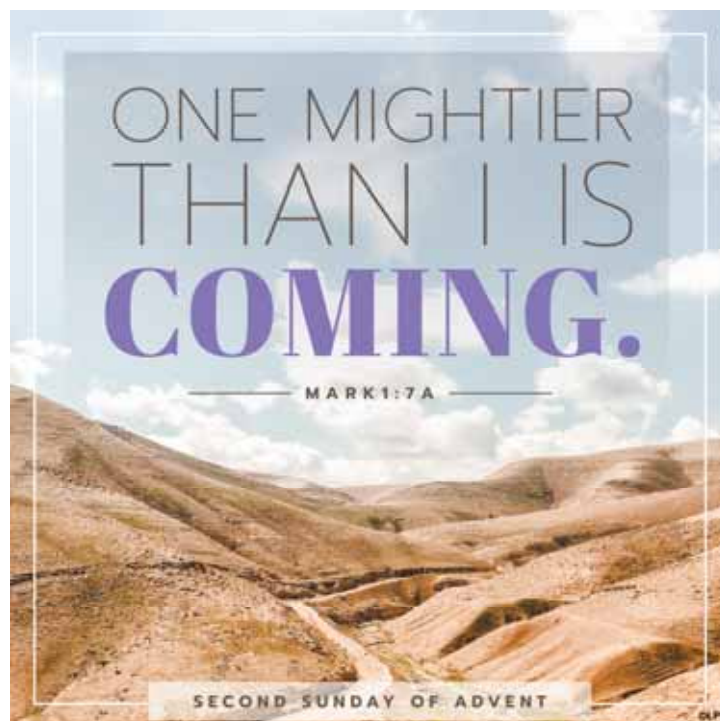
### Youth Ministry/Confirmation Program

Jennifer Michalik-Olson, *Director, ext. 138*

[youthministry@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:youthministry@stscholasticaparish.org)



December 10, 2023



**Welcome to St. Scholastica Parish Office!**

Visitors will check in at the front desk, and the staff member on duty will direct all visitors to their meeting room or appointment.

***As a gentle reminder please do not come to the parish facilities if you are not feeling well.***

**Parish Office Hours**

**Monday, 8 am to 6 pm**

**Tuesday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm**

**Saturday and Sunday, Closed**

**Please call the office before you come,  
as office hours are subject to change.**

**What Sort of Persons?**

In this Advent time of looking to the future while living in the now, Saint Peter's question is the right one: "What sort of person ought you to be?" Saint John the Baptist offers a good response and better example. He is not full of himself. He knows his minor place. He points to the One who is both with us now and is also coming.

- † How will my waiting on the Lord make me more humble?
- † What full-of-myself behaviors can I change, can I let go?
- † Works of Mercy take the focus off me for the benefit of another. What will I do?

**Our Mission**

As a welcoming people, with Jesus as our foundation, we are the Catholic Community of St. Scholastica Parish.

Guided by the Holy Spirit and the Scriptures and strengthened by the Eucharist, we humbly and joyfully accept our baptismal call to share our time, talents, and treasures to support and nurture each other and those in need.

**Welcome**

All those visiting the parish are invited to stop by the "Welcoming Center" in the Breezeway of the Church to pick up information about our parish. Registration forms can be found in this area and once completed can be placed in the offertory basket at Mass. The form can also be downloaded from our web site. If you need any assistance in completing the form, please don't hesitate to contact us at 630.985.2351, ext. 122. We would also be happy to take your information over the phone.

**My fellow Stewards—"Stewardship our Way of Life"**

- ♦ **Receive God's gifts gratefully**
- ♦ **Cultivate them responsibly**
- ♦ **Share them lovingly in justice with others**
- ♦ **Return them with increase to the Lord**

***Teach us to be the very building....the people of God.***



We encourage everyone to consider using the Sunday Offertory Envelopes or Online Giving as a way of giving to the Lord the "first fruits" of the "treasure" you have received.

Due to bulletin deadline schedules created by the upcoming Christmas and New Year Holidays, Stewardship information for the week of December 2 & 3 will be included in next week's bulletin.



*Online Giving* is a great way to help our administrative staff while supporting your church. Signing up is easy—you can use a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Just go to our church website: [www.stscholasticaparish.org](http://www.stscholasticaparish.org) and click on the *Online Giving* logo to get started.

Need help setting up *Online Giving*?

Contact:

Our Sunday Visitor

800-348-2886, ext. 2 or [onlinegiving@osv.com](mailto:onlinegiving@osv.com)

Scan the QR code and you will be taken to our online giving portal at Our Sunday Visitor - OSV. Set up one time or recurring donations for Sunday Offerings (Stewardship) or peruse the site for special collections and set them up too! Thank you and God Bless you for your continued support and generosity!



**Did you know  
St. Scholastica Parish  
has an App?**

You can find readings of the day, weekly bulletins, and monthly calendars, as well as Links to FORMED, Eucharistic Revival, and On-line Giving! There is also a button you can use to read about the Saints! Follow the simple instructions below to get the App for St. Scholastica Parish, Woodridge!







## St. Scholastica Advent & Christmas Schedule 2023

### Parish Music Ministry Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 10—7 pm

### Parish Advent Penance Service

Monday, December 11—7:00 pm

### Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 16—4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, December 17—8 am, 10 am, & 12 Noon Masses

5 pm—Simbang Gabi Mass

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23—4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, December 24—8 am, 10 am, & 12 Noon Masses

### Christmas Eve—Sunday, December 24

4 pm Masses in Church & Gym

9:30 pm Caroling

10 pm Mass in the Church

### Christmas Day—Monday, December 25

9 am & 11 am Masses

### The Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

Saturday, December 30—4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, December 31—8 am, 10 am, & 12 Noon Masses

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Monday, January 1—9 am Mass



## Your Weekly Message from Fr. Norbert, CR

Listening to the news since the celebration of Thanksgiving one would think that everyone spent the whole weekend after Thanksgiving shopping for all those special deals, and that is not to mention that the days leading up to the beginning of

Advent last Sunday were also filled with fantastic bargains. But there was a surprise for us as we approached the beginning of Advent---the weather turned cold and a dusting of snow kept many people at home. So, instead of rushing out to shop, some people decided to wait for better weather to go out and find a bargain. Still there are people who were asking, "What are you waiting for?" No matter how fast time seems to be moving along, we still must spend a part of our lives waiting. Just think about preparing food. It is much faster to cook by using a microwave oven rather than using a standard gas or electric oven or preparing food over a burner on the stove in a pot or frying pan, we still must wait for it to be ready. Waiting is a real part of life, but waiting does not have to be a difficult time because there is another side to waiting: anticipation. Anticipation can be a fun time. Buying gifts and carefully wrapping them up for someone dear to us for a special occasion can be a fun time just to see the recipient's face when they unwrap the gift. So too the season of Advent is a time of anticipation. Although we live in difficult and turbulent times, we are also recalling that the Lord Jesus was born in time. This Sunday we recall that we are waiting for a new world that the Lord Jesus brings to us. But this new world comes only if we "let go" of our self-centeredness, jealousy, and animosities. And we are able to do this if we listen to John the Baptist and be forgiving and following the path that leads us to the Lord. But all this takes time, and we must be willing to be actively trying to make our world a better place while we wait.

*Fr. Norb, C.R.*



Our progress to date is:

**PARISH GOAL: \$99,000**

**AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$86,949**

**AMOUNT PAID: \$84,327**

**PLEDGED BALANCE DUE: \$2,622**

**FAMILIES PLEDGED: 370 of 1,645**

**Thank you for your continuing support!**



## Our Vibrant Bulletin Delivered Straight to Your Inbox

Subscribe to [parishesonline.com](http://parishesonline.com) to get a link to our bulletin delivered straight to your inbox! Visit:

[www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)

and search for St. Scholastica Parish to get started today. It's fast, easy, and free!

## Sacrament of Baptism

Congratulations on the birth of your child and thank you for taking the first step with your child on a life-long journey of faith. In preparation for this very joyous celebration you are required to take part in an on-line Baptismal Preparation Program. Please call Marisa at 630.985.2351x122 or e-mail [mtrevino@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:mtrevino@stscholasticaparish.org) for more information and to sign up for the course. Baptisms can only be scheduled after completion of the baptismal course.

**December 3, 2023**

**Olivia Marie Lyons Rivera**

*Daughter of Michael Lyons & Kimberly  
Rivera Cruz*

**Zion Michael Gaczorek**

*Son of Scott Gaczorek & Vanessa Vasquez*



## Arranging a Funeral

Arrangements for a Funeral Mass are made through the Funeral Home you choose. The Funeral Home will contact the Parish Administration Center to schedule the Mass. If arrangements will not be made through a funeral home, please contact the Parish Administration Center at 630.985.2351x122 for assistance. More information can be found on the Parish Web Site: [www.stscholasticaparish.org](http://www.stscholasticaparish.org)

### We Pray for Our Deceased and Their Families

**Rose Barger**

*Mother of Randy (Bev) Barger  
Grandmother of Michelle & Ashley Barger*

**Joan Names**

*Mother of Colette (Robert) McPhail,  
Connie (John) Ivan, & Carol Glynn  
Grandmother of Nicole (Anthony) Becker,  
Joe (Alex) Glynn, Lauren (Connor) Riley,  
Kristin (Joe) Laskey, Taylor (Jack) Sutherland,  
& Justin McPhail  
Great-Grandmother of Adeline, Cillian, & Magnus*

### Please Pray for Our Friends and Family Battling Cancer

To request to be added or removed from the cancer list, please contact the office at 630.985.2351, ext.122. In order to keep the list up to date, names will be removed automatically after six months.

Richard Buban, Heather McMillen,  
Nora Sanstad, Jerry Munley,  
Mary Joy Germo, Deb Sharbak,  
Marlene Talaski, Sonja Rudny,  
Celeste Aguzino, Marilyn Ayersman,  
Jack Nagle, Sandra Woodring,  
Clem Campbell, Judy Retterer

**St. Peregrine**



**Pray for Us**



Robert White  
Lynn Hope  
Jim Wagner  
Jon Riley  
Rosela Mendoza  
Fiorella Hufnal  
Lynn Love  
Rodolfo Arana  
Carmella Markett  
Alexander Napierkowski  
Lou Kammer

**If you or a member of your immediate family are in need of prayer, please contact the Parish Office at 985-2351, ext. 122, and we will place the name in the bulletin. Names will remain in the bulletin for 4 weeks unless you call to have prayers extended.**

## A SOLDIER'S PRAYER

By John E. Kleiman

Dear Lord,

I'm just a soldier, a protector of our land. A servant called to battle when my country takes a stand. I pray for strength and courage and a heart that will forgive. For peace and understanding in a world for all to live.

My family's prayers are with me, no matter where I roam. Please listen when I'm lonely and return me safely home.

### Continue to Pray for Our Friends and Family who are in Active Duty in the Military.

**If you would like loved ones who are on active duty in the military to be included on the bulletin board in the Breezeway, drop pictures off in the Parish Office.**



### IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS:

Major Tanner Courtney USMC, SP4 Brian Dilger,  
Lance Corporal Jaleasia Reed, Captain Joe Chambers,  
1st Lt Rachel Schlitter, Corporal Donte Reed,  
Airman Robert Rouille, VT Claire Gieseke,  
PVT Michaelangelo Zaucha Fernandez,  
ET 1 Kim Bellavia, LT Michael Bellavia,  
Sargent Daron J. Reed, SPC Matthew Aubele,  
PFC SGT Eric Kuchta, Staff SGT Kyle Gulley,  
PFC Sebastian Elapumkal, SGT Trent Johnson,  
SPC Samantha Rapp, PVT Jake Higley,  
Captain Mark F. Luneburg, PFC Michael Jacobson,  
EMF-K Karl Gieseke, NSM Larry J. Threadgill,  
LTC Noel Sioson, Major Brady Sexton,  
Ensign Randall Jacob Hopkins,  
Major Kenneth Schlorf, Sergeant Donald J. May,  
Staff SGT Ryan Gulley, Major David G. Mack,  
MFN Jesse Kolek



### The Tabernacle Candle

"In accordance with traditional custom, near the tabernacle a special lamp, fueled by oil or wax, should be kept alight to indicate and honor the presence of Christ." (General Instruction of the Roman Missal 316) If you would like to make a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one, please call the Parish Office. The donation is \$10. The candle offering is for one week.

### The Tabernacle Candle

is offered this week for:

**Mary Lou Breedlove**

By: Tuch Family

*Altar Flowers for the  
weekend of December 9 & 10  
are provided in  
Loving Memory of  
Deacon J Frank Marquez*

**Would you like to provide a fresh floral arrangement to adorn the sanctuary of our church on a given Sunday?** This is a wonderful opportunity to commemorate a special event, i.e. a birth, wedding anniversary, anniversary of a loved one's death, etc. Your name and the occasion will be published in the bulletin. To order your arrangement and secure the date you wish simply contact The parish office at 630.985.2351, ext. 122. Seventy-five dollars will cover the cost and the Art and Environment Committee will take care of the rest!

## Mass Schedule

### Weekend

Saturday (*eve of Sunday*) ..... 4:30 P.M.

Sunday ..... 8 A.M., 10 A.M. and 12 NOON

### Daily

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday ... 8:30 A.M.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday ..... 3:30 – 4:15 P.M.

*or call the Parish Office to make an appointment*

### Pulpit Announcements

need to be to Lisa Riedl

[riedl@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:riedl@stscholasticaparish.org)

by 9 am the

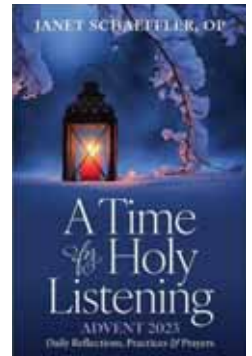
Tuesday before the weekend

### Sacrament of Marriage

Preparation for marriage involves special instruction for the couple. **Notification to the Parish Administration Center is required at least 6 months in advance.** Please call

Sue at the Parish Administration Center, 985-2351, ext. 124, for more information.

The season of Advent gives us space for holy listening and calls us to reflect on the profound reality of who we are and whose we are. Our 2023 Advent Daily Reflections book will be available the weekend of November 25 & 26. Take time to listen, and prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ!



### Just a Reminder:

### Immediate Prayer Chain

If you or anyone that you know is experiencing a situation where Immediate Prayers is desired, please contact Beverly Murphy at [murphy807@aol.com](mailto:murphy807@aol.com) with the words Prayer Request in the subject area. Your request will immediately be sent to those of the parish who have volunteered

to be part of this ministry.

If anyone feels led to become a link in this immediate Prayer Chain, please contact Beverly at the above email address with Prayer Request in the subject line. We currently have fifteen links in our chain, and additional links are always welcome.

**The parish office personnel will still need to be contacted at 630.985.2351x122 if you wish for the request to appear in the weekly bulletin.**

## Social Concerns & Service Programs

### Important Phone Numbers

Confidential Emergency Financial Assistance 630.985.2351x3  
West Suburban Community Pantry (food assistance) 630.512.9921  
For Sick, Homebound and Hospital Visits..... 630.985.2351x122  
Birthright (*Crisis Pregnancy*) ..... 630.355.9888  
Catholic Charities (*Crisis Pregnancy*)..... 630.495.9850  
Domestic Violence Hotline ..... 630.469.5650  
Hope's Front Door..... 630.322.9803  
F.I.S.H. Food Pantry & Clothes Closet ..... 630.964.7776



**THANK YOU** to all who chose a family for food or gifts for Christmas!

**This is a reminder to bring your donations to the main door of the church on Saturday morning, December 16 between 8:00 and 9:00 AM.**

Volunteers will be on hand to unload your car for you. Please be on time, as recipients will arrive beginning at 9:30 AM.

If you were unable to choose a family, donations may be made by check, payable to St. Scholastica and marked "Christmas." You may deposit them in the Sunday collection or mail to the parish. You may also donate online at <https://osvhub.com/stscholasticaparish/giving/funds> Select "Outreach Program"

Thank you, and God bless you and your families with peace and joy this holiday season.

-Sponsored by St. Scholastica Christian Outreach

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Please join us for our Parish Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

Featuring our:  
Adult Choir, Handbell Ensemble, Youth Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, Cantor Ensemble, Resurrection Choir, Instrumental Solos, and more!

## Monday, December 11 7 pm

PENITENTIAL SERVICE



[www.facebook.com/stscholasticaparish/woodridgeil](https://www.facebook.com/stscholasticaparish/woodridgeil)





VOLUNTEERS are needed in the church and church parking lot to help distribute Christmas food and gift baskets to our neighbors in need on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Helpers will carry in donations from cars, and carry them back out to the cars of recipients.

Teens and adults are welcome. Children younger than teens must be accompanied by an adult. We will be in the church from 7:30 AM until approximately 12:00 Noon.

Email Barbara Schmith with any questions, [baschmith@gmail.com](mailto:baschmith@gmail.com).



It's the time of year where you can make an even bigger difference in your charitable gift giving. With your generosity, Daybreak now supports three families who live in an apartment paid for with your help. Our Adopt-A-Family campaign will begin again during Lent but this time of year gives you a new opportunity to give an additional amount helping to solidify our commitment to allow three families to grow in learning life skills while being successful in transitional housing. We call upon you to help with whatever amount you feel comfortable giving. To do so please take one of our envelopes from the narthex, include your donation (checks made payable to Daybreak of St. Scholastica), and drop it in the collection basket or simply drop a check into the basket. To give online go to <https://osvhub.com/stscholasticaparish/funds> and scroll until you see DayBreak Program. Our families bless and thank you and we wish you an exceptionally joyful Christmas.



**THANK YOU!!**  
Your generosity in donating 566 children's books is greatly appreciated. Many children will be a little happier this holiday season.



The National Eucharistic Revival continues through 2025. I've written that fewer and fewer baptized Catholics attend Mass and even fewer are reported to believe in the real

presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. It is reported that 69% of Catholics do not believe that the Eucharist is the real presence of Jesus Christ. Do you believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist? I would like to think that most of our parishioners here at St. Scholastica do believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. I wonder if we do. Do you and your family? I wonder how we came to believe this. Was your belief always there? Was it taught or shown to you by example and upbringing? Who or what influenced our faith? Was it Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Baltimore Catechism, family, friends, priests, deacons, or sisters? Is our faith firm, and does it continue to grow? *Possibly you can have a discussion with those in your circle about those questions.* Before we share on a broader scale, I'd like to direct you to the Eucharistic Revival website and the Spark Series — 9 Days of Thoughts and Prayer for Renewal: <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/get-involved> You can sign up to receive a daily email for nine days, and I will summarize this content and present it here over the coming weeks. You can expect God to work in amazing ways in your life as you surrender yourself more deeply to him. Let's get excited for the spiritual fruits we will experience from this prayer journey! Pray: *Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you will renew the face of the earth. Amen.*

Peace, shalom,  
Shawn Denning  
Parishioner  
RCIA/OCIA Sponsor





Knights of Columbus Council #5918 is once again doing a Four Roses Bourbon Basket raffle. Tickets are \$5 for one or 3 tickets for \$10. Even if Bourbon is not your thing, this a great Christmas gift for that someone special. Drawing is December 20th. We will be selling raffle tickets before and after all masses the weekends of November 18/10 and 25/26 and December 16/17.

If you're interested please text or call David Wingier at (630) 991-8513. Take care and keep God in your hearts!

### *Council of Catholic Women*

Is again sponsoring an  
ANGEL TREE  
Weekends of December  
9/10<sup>th</sup> and 16/17<sup>th</sup>  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
THE PARISH &  
MINISTRIES OF  
ST. SCHOLASTICA  
Your intentions, Get Well  
wishes, Birthday greetings,  
Anniversary greetings,  
Congratulations or whatever  
is on your heart, will be  
lifted in a Special Intentions  
Mass on January 26th..



\* \* \* Free Will Donation \* \* \*



### *Jesus and the Eucharist:*

#### **A Small Group Series for Eucharistic Revival**

Dear Parishioners,

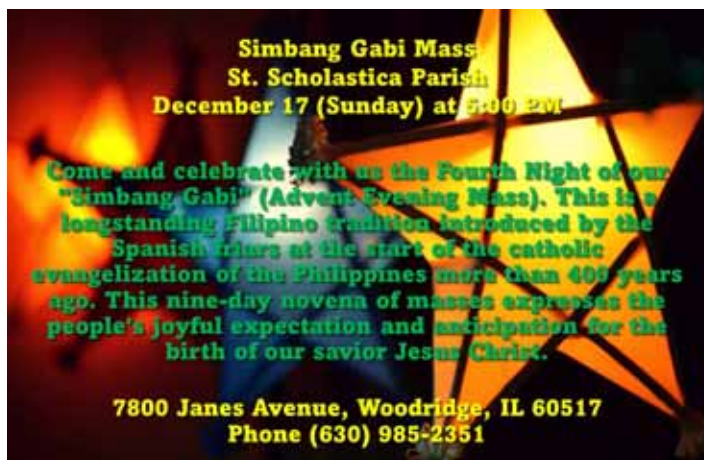
As we continue this year of Eucharistic Revival, we would like to invite you to grow closer to Jesus alongside fellow parishioners through the Jesus and the Eucharist study. This study was specifically designed for this Year of Parish Revival, and we will be joining many other parishes throughout the United States in participating in this small group study as we journey together through this three-year National Eucharistic Revival.

Each session is full of rich theological content, powerful testimonies, and unique and timely messages from individual bishops across the country. This is a great opportunity to dive more deeply into the richness of our Eucharistic faith.

This study will be a special time to grow in community within our parish as we walk this sacred year together, and we really desire you to join us.

To make this program more accessible to our parishioners there will be a daytime offering and an evening offering of the same program. The program will be offered during Lent on Wednesdays beginning February 21, 2024, through April 3, 2024. Look for registration information in the bulletin, parish website, and program posters after January 1, 2024.

Fr. Norbert Raszeja, CR  
Pastor



For the full Simbang Gabi schedule,  
visit **Diocese of Joliet website:**

<https://www.aroundthediocese.org/2022/12/01/simbang-gabi-novena-schedule-set-for-2022/>



### **Too many 2024 calendars coming your way?**

Roger's Writers is collecting 2024 Calendars as well as Christmas cards and the other cards that you have so generously donated. Any size or shape of calendar is welcomed. We have connected with another Pen Pal Group that sends out thousands of calendars to institutions each year.

Thank You !  
Shawn Denning ~ [sdenning@stscholasticaparish.org](mailto:sdenning@stscholasticaparish.org)





## Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to  
those who have  
given a lifetime.



### December 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will soon take up the national collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your support for this collection December 9/10 provides financial assistance for retirement needs for 297 U.S. religious communities.

Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests—collectively known as women and men religious—have selflessly served for decades without significant financial compensation. However, due to escalating health-care costs, numerous U.S. religious communities face a substantial gap between their elderly members' needs and the financial resources available for their care. Many religious orders currently experience insufficient retirement savings.

**The 2022 appeal demonstrated Catholics' tremendous generosity by raising \$27.6 million. Diocese of Joliet parishioners contributed \$286,788.25 to the collection.**

The senior religious in our diocese never retire from their vows, and they play a crucial role in conveying the faith from one generation to the next. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry as ongoing witnesses to the Gospel. Others are frail and need assistance, yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations by embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Please support the retirement needs of our senior religious. And please join me in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

As I remain –

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ Ronald A. Hicks*

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks  
Bishop of Joliet

### The Need is Great

- Religious communities are financially responsible for the support and care of all members.
- There are 24,005 religious past age 70 living in the United States. In 2022, the average annual cost for their care was roughly \$55,500 per person; skilled nursing care averaged \$82,700 per person.
- Since 2009, the annual cost to support senior women and men religious has exceeded \$1 billion.
- In 2022, 71 percent of the religious communities providing data to the National Religious Retirement Office had a median age of 70 or higher.
- The average annual Social Security benefit for a religious is \$7,679, whereas the average lay US beneficiary receives \$21,902.



**Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm—Boy Scout Troop 512 Meeting in Activity Center

**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 pm—8th Grade Confirmation Session in Youth Room  
 4:15 pm—Religious Education Sessions in All Classrooms  
 5:45 pm—8th Grade Confirmation Sessions in Youth Room & Room 201A  
 6:00 pm—Religious Education Sessions in All Classrooms  
 6:30 pm—Cub Scout Bear Den Meeting in Art Room  
 7:00 pm—Parish Pastoral Council Gathering Off Site  
 7:30 pm—Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal in Church  
 7:30 pm—S.T.O.R.M. Youth Ministry Discovery Retreat Meeting in Youth Room

**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am—Quilting Club in Room 112  
 6:30 pm—Cub Scout Religious Award Review Meeting in Room 113  
 7:00 pm—Daybreak Transitional Housing Meeting in Room 112  
 7:00 pm—S.T.O.R.M. Youth Ministry Unleashed Small Group Session in Youth Room  
 7:30 pm—Adult Choir Rehearsal in Church  
 7:00 pm—S.T.O.R.M. Youth Ministry Youth Ministry Winter Retreat Team Meeting in Youth Room

**Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 pm—Cub Scout Wolf Den Meeting in Activity Center

**Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

10:30 am—J.O.Y. Break Open the Word Gathering in Room 112  
 12:15 pm—"The Chosen" Viewing & Discussion in Room 112  
 2:30 pm—Christmas Basket Distribution Set-up in Church & Gym  
 5:45 pm—Cub Scout Pack 511 Meeting in Activity Center

**Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 am—Christmas Basket Distribution in Church & Gym  
 4:00 pm—Knights of Columbus Bourbon Raffle Ticket Sales in Breezeway  
 5:30 pm—CCW Angel Ornament Fundraiser at Welcome Kiosk

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 am—Knights of Columbus Bourbon Raffle Ticket Sales in Breezeway  
 7:30 am—CCW Angel Ornament Fundraiser at Welcome Kiosk  
 8:15 am—S.T.O.R.M. Youth Ministry Chicago Street Ministry Experience in Chicago  
 9:00 am—Rite of Christian Initiation Session in Room 112  
 10:15 am—Children's Liturgy of the Word in Gym  
 6:00 pm—Simbang Gabi Reception in Gym

For a complete calendar, visit the calendar page on the Parish Web Site at [www.stscholasticaparish.org](http://www.stscholasticaparish.org)

† denotes deceased...

**Monday, December 11, Advent Weekday**

**Saint Damasus I, Pope**

8:30 a.m.—† Edward & Barbara Rakunas—*C. Rakunas*  
 7:00 p.m.—PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

**Tuesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:30 a.m.—† Guadalupe Reynoso—*Reynoso Family*  
 † Robert & Esther Roche—*Jim & Sonja Rudny*  
 † Ignac Glavac—*Mary Glavac*  
 † Jim Picek—*Tuch Family*  
 † Genaro & Arcadia Ymbong—*Fe Quimque*

**Wednesday, December 13, Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr**

8:30 a.m.—Maryann Berendt [Birthday]—*Reynoso Family*  
 † Mary Bridgeman—*Family*  
 Fiorella Hufnal [Healing]—*Romeo Quimque & Family*  
 † Edgardo Pampolina—*Yolanda Oconer & Family*  
 † Maria, Antoni, & Zofia Klaus—*Irene Lasota*

**Thursday, December 14, Saint John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church**  
**No Public Mass**

**Friday December 15, Advent Weekday**

8:30 a.m.—ALL SCHOOL MASS—† Lilia Carteciano—*Mendoza Family*

**Saturday, December 16, Advent Weekday**

**Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent**

4:30 p.m.—† Pat Citro—*John & Deb Aguzino*

**Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent**

**Gaudete Sunday**

8:00 a.m.—The Parish Family of St. Scholastica  
 10:00 a.m.—† Timothy Schaffer—*Rosanne & Chris Moeslein*  
 12:00 p.m.—† James Smierciak—*Eileene Nystrom*  
 5:00 p.m.—SIMBANG GABI MASS

**Please Note Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines**

Publish Date	Copy Due Date	Send to Publisher
December 24	December 12	December 14
December 31	December 19	December 22
January 7	December 27	December 29
January 14	January 4	January 9